

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 PER-05 AID-05 PC-05 H-02

ABF-01 MMO-04 A-01 /041 W

-----111512 301344Z /44

R 301007Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5656

INFO AMCONSUL CHIENGMAI

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY VIETIANE

AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

AMCONSUL UDORN

UNCLAS BANGKOK 19263

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, PER, TH

SUBJ: STAFFING FOR THE NEW INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PAROLE PROGRAM

1. BARNES HAS REVIEWED WITH THE CHARGE, THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNSELOR, AND THE REFUGEE SECTION STAFF THE STATE/AID PERSONNEL NEEDS FOR THE SECTION UNDER THE NEW PAROLE PROGRAM WE ENVISION THE FOLLOWING PATTERN:

A. COORDINATOR: BARNES

B. DEPUTY COORDINATOR: ROSENBLATT, WILKINSON, OR COLIN

C. SECRETARY: ACTON

D. CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL OFFICER: UNNAMED

E. LAO AFFAIRS OFFICER: TUCKER

F. HMONG AFFAIRS OFFICER: DANIELS

2. WE HAVE NO AMERICAN ON HAND WHO CAN SPEAK KHMER, BUT THERE ARE UP TO 13,000 KHMER REFUGEES IN THAILAND. WE THUS ADDITIONALLY HAVE AN EXTREME NEED FOR AKHMER AFFAIRS OFFICER FOR ONLY 60 DAYS TDY DURING OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER. PREFERRED CANDIDATES ARE TIMOTHY CARNEY, JOHN REINERTSON, JEFFREY MILLINGTON, OR DONAL JAMESON. THE PREFERRED FSI TEST SCORE IS 4-4; NO ONE WHO HAS BELOW A 3 PLUS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SPEAKING WOULD BE USEFUL.

3. WE ALSO NEED A VIETNAMESE AFFAIRS OFFICER FOR THREE MONTHS TDY FROM SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 15. HIS JOB WOULD BE TO RESOLVE THE BOAT CASE PROBLEM, AND WORK ON THE SI KHIU CAMP. KENNETH QUINN OR ARTHUR KOBLER WOULD BE IDEAL. PLEASE ELIMINATE ANY CANDIDATES BELOW A TESTED 4-4 IN THE LANGUAGE.

4. ADDITIONALLY, THE DEPARTMENT HAS UNDOUBTEDLY NOT FORGOTTEN THAT THOMPSON'S TDY IN MALAYSIA EXPIRES OCTOBER 31. IF HIS REPLACEMENT, BESIDE OTHER TALENTS, ALSO HAD A 4-4 IN VIETNAMESE, THE PROGRAM SHOULD RUN EFFICIENTLY BECAUSE OF THE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY VIETNAMESE CAST OF THE REFUGEE POPULATION THERE.

5. THE COMMITMENT TO THAILAND OF THE DEPUTY COORDINATOR SHOULD BE FOR AT LEAST TEN MONTHS. THE POSITION COULD WELL EXTEND BEYOND THEN, DEPENDING ON THE INTENSITY OF FUTURE REFUGEE PROBLEMS IN THAILAND, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE TASK FORCE. THE CHARGE WOULD LIKE TO ENSURE THAT THE DEPUTY IS A STATE OFFICER OF PROVEN SUPERVISORY COMPETENCE.

6. THE SECTION IS CURRENTLY BURIED IN CORRESPONDENCE. WE RECEIVE AN AVERAGE OF 100 LETTERS PER DAY, INCLUDING 7-10 CONGRESSIONALS PER WEEK. IRC RECEIVES ANOTHER 30 LETTERS A DAY. COMMERCIAL CABLES AND PHONE CALLS FROM THE UNITED STATES ARE ALSO PICKING UP. THE CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL OFFICER WOULD KEEP TABS ON THIS COMMUNICATIONS FLOW.

7. OUR INTENTION WITH THE FOUR DESIGNATED ETHNIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS WOULD BE PRIMARY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVE FOCUS ON REFUGEES WHO SHARE THEIR LINGUISTIC EXPERTISE. THE IRC TEAMS, UNLIKE UNDER THE EXPANDED PAROLE PROGRAM, WILL NOT BE CONFINED TO A SPECIFIC ETHNIC GROUP, AND THE ETHNIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS WILL THUS SERVE TO BALANCE

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THE GENERALIST IRC APPROACH. THE ETHNIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS SHOULD HAVE THE UNDERSTANDING, HOWEVER, THAT THEY MAY BE CALLED UPON TO UNTIE KNOTS ANYWHERE IN THE PROGRAM.

8. THE DECISION ON AN UDORN SUB-OFFICE REMAINS AT LEAST TWO MONTHS OFF. IF WE ESTABLISH ONE, TUCKER SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT TDY FROM BANGKOK. AT THIS STATE, WE DO NOT FORESEE A REQUIREMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL TDY OFFICER TO HANDLE EITHER UDORN OR THE GAP THAT TUCKER'S TEMPORARY ABSENCE FROM BANGKOK WOULD CREATE.

9. WE WOULD URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO MOVE TOWARD EARLY ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNDING OF SEVERAL OF THE SIX POSITIONS LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 1. BY ALL PRUDENT ESTIMATES, THE REFUGEE PROBLEM IN THAILAND AND SOUTHEAST ASIA IS NOT GOING TO END WITH THE EXPECTED COMPLETION OF THE PAROLE PROGRAM NEXT SUMMER. TUCKER CURRENTLY OCCUPIES THE ONLY FUNDED POSITION. BARNES WOULD LIKE TO BRING HIS FAMILY TO THAILAND IN OCTOBER AT GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN PERSONAL EXPENSE.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD THUS RECOMMEND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE THREE FOLLOWING POSITIONS: COORDINATOR, SECRETARY, AND CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL OFFICER, IN ADDITION TO RETAINING THE SLOT

ALREADY ON HAND FOR TUCKER. THE DEPUTY COORDINATOR SLOT COULD BE
TDY PENDING POSSIBLE BLENDING WITH THE COORDINATOR SLOT AS THE
PAROLE PROGRAM WINDS UP NEXT SPRING. THE HMONG AFFAIRS OFFICER
COULD ALSO REMAIN A TDY POSITION SINCE HE WILL BE TRAVELING
EXTENSIVELY IN THE NORTH AND NORTHEAST. A CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL
OFFICER SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE IN HEAVY DEMAND BEYOND THE COMPLETION
OF THE PAROLE AS MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES TO THE UNITED STATES INCREASES
THE ELIGIBILITY OF THEIR CLOSE RELATIVES IN THAILAND. THE CONSULAR
SECTION IS ALREADY RECEIVING A SIZEABLE NUMBER OF PETITIONS ON
BEHALF OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE RELATIVES IN VIETNAM OR
THAILAND. BY 1980, A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF INDOCHINESE WILL BE
ELIGIBLE FOR CITIZENSHIP AND WILL BE PRESUMABLY PETITIONING ON
BEHALF OF THEIR RELATIVES LEFT BEHIND IN THAILAND.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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